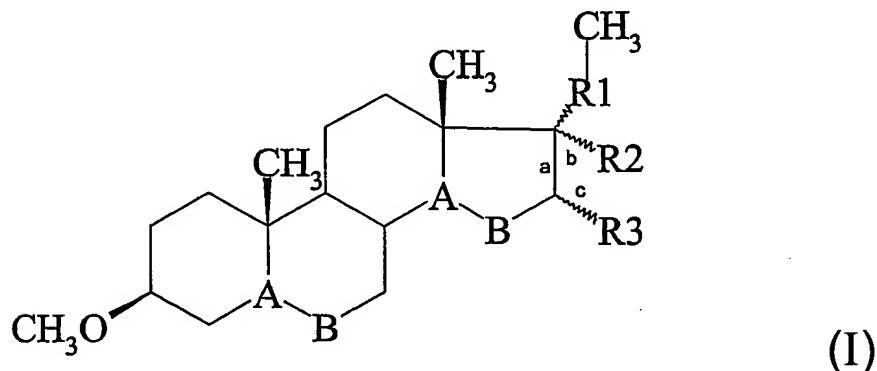


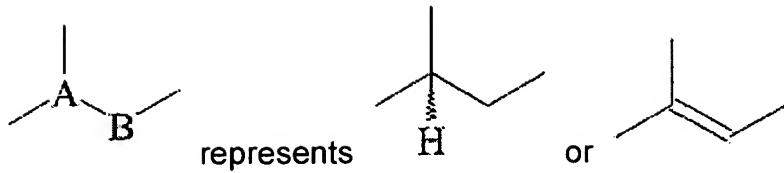
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating an acute or chronic lesion or a degenerative disease of the nervous system by stimulating the polymerization and/or the stabilization of microtubules in a patient, comprising the administration to said patient of an effective quantity of a drug comprising The administration of 3 β -methoxy-pregna-5-ene-20-one (3-methoxy-PREG) or a molecule derived from pregnenolone that contains a 3-methoxy function and is incapable of being converted into a metabolite or ester sulfate of pregnenolone, for the preparation of a drug to stimulate the polymerization and/or the stabilization of microtubules to treat an acute or chronic lesion or a degenerative disease of the nervous system, with the aforementioned wherein said molecule derived from pregnenolone presenting is of formula I:



in which:

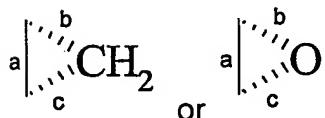


R1 = $-\text{CO}-$; $-\text{CH}(\text{OH})-$ or $-\text{CH}(\text{O}-\text{COCH}_3)-$

R2 = H or CHCl_2 ,

R3 = H or CH_3 , or

R2 and R3 together form a ring:



2. (Currently Amended) The use-method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the aforementioned said disease or lesion is selected from the group comprising Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, age-induced memory loss, memory loss induced by the taking of substances, a traumatic lesion, a cerebral lesion, a lesion of the spinal cord, in particular medullary compression, ischemia, pain, notably neuritic pain, nerve degeneration, and multiple sclerosis.

3. (Currently Amended) The use-method according to claim 1, wherein the aforementioned said drug also comprises an excipient that makes it possible to formulate the aforementioned molecule derived from pregnenolone to cross the blood-brain barrier.

4. (Currently Amended) The use method according to one of the claim[[s]] 1-
to 3, wherein the forrementionedsad drug is presented in an administered by injectable
injection form.

5. (Currently Amended) The use method according to one of the claim[[s]] 1-
to 3, wherein the forrementedsad drug is presented in an administered orally.

6. (Currently Amended) The use method according to one of the claim[[s]] 1-
to 5, wherein the forrementedsad molecule of formula I is 3-methoxy-PREG.

7. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein said molecule of
formula I is 3 β -methoxy-pregna-5-ene-20-one-17 α -dichloromethyl.

8. (Currently Amended) The use method according to one of the claim[[s]] 1-
to 7, wherein the forrementedsad drug comprises a quantity of 3-methoxy-
pregnenolonePREG or of said molecule of formula I a derived molecule ranging
between 50 and 2500 mg.

9. (Currently Amended) A drug consisting of 3-methoxy-pregnenolonePREG
as a drug.

10. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising 3-
methoxy-pregnenolonePREG or a molecule derived from pregnenolone that contains a
3-methoxy function of general formula I as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically
acceptable excipient.

11. (Withdrawn) An in vitro method for increasing the stabilization and/or inducing the polymerization of the microtubules in a cell, comprising the step of exposing the aforementioned cell to the presence of 3-methoxy-pregnenolone at a concentration of approximately 0.5 to 50 μ mol.

12. (Withdrawn) An in vitro method for increasing neuritic sprouting in a cell, comprising the step of exposing the aforementioned cell to the presence of 3-methoxy-pregnenolone at a concentration of approximately 0.5 to 50 μ mol.